

Editor spends Spring
Break in Egypt
See B7 for full article
The Council is
determined to make a
comeback
See B7 for full article

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NW MISSOURIAN

CONVERGING CAMPUS & COMMUNITY

THURSDAY
March 29, 2007
V81 / N25
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WEEKENDWEATHER

FRIDAY
HI 69
LO 52

SATURDAY
HI 57
LO 42

SUNDAY
HI 67
LO 47



CORRECTIONS

In the Thursday, March 15 issue in the story "Dog-gone Shame" the luncheon is Thursday, April 12 not April 1.

Also in the March 15 issue in the story "Northwest, ConnectEdu simplifies college process" the ConnectEdu Web site is Connectedu.net not Connectedu.org. We apologize for these errors.

GUITAR HERO MATCH UP

Medium Weight Forks will hold "Forkstock" 2007 by having a Guitar Hero Tournament at 8 p.m. Wednesday, April 4, in the J.W. Jones Student Union Ballroom.

There is a \$3 entry fee and every participant will receive a prize.

TODAY

Food court buffet in the Union.

Thursdays at the Union "Rock the Rec Center," 10 p.m.

FRIDAY

Fourth scheduled Aladine installment credited.

Aristotle Georgides sculpture closes.

Theatre: "The Yellow Boat" 7:30 p.m., Mary Linn Performing Arts Center.

SATURDAY

Admissions Green and White Visit Day.

Student Senate Bearcat Street Swap, 10 a.m.

MBA written comprehensive exam.

SUNDAY

Bach Piano Day Festival, all day, Charles Johnson Theater.

www.nwmissourianews.com

Visit the web for:
A slideshow of Egypt pictures taken during managing editor Jessica Schmidt's voyage.

-CENTER OF EXCELLENCE UPDATE

University continues search for occupant

By Kristin Summers
University Editor

Following the announcement from Edenspace Systems Corporation that it plans to move its headquarters to Junction City, Kan., Northwest continues to pursue other companies to occupy the Center of Excellence for Plant Biologics.

One company, which accord-

ing to Northwest President Dean Hubbard could not be revealed as of press time, toured Northwest's Center of Excellence March 28.

Though their name cannot be revealed, the company deals with recycling and renewable fuels. Another type of company interested in moving to Northwest is a seed researching company, Hubbard said.

Edenspace, which uses plants

for environmental protection and renewable fuels, will move from Dulles, Va., in the next year after its 20,000 square foot headquarters is built in the next 12 to 15 months, Edenspace CEO Bruce Ferguson said.

The facility will be built in the new Tom Neal Technology Park on the western edge of Junction City,

see **SEARCH** on A6

GRILLIN' UP A GOOD TIME



STUDENT ACTIVITY Council recruitment chair member Kelsey Vlet cooks hamburgers and hotdogs during Wednesday afternoon's barbecue held by the Bell Tower. The barbecue was one of the many events associated with Northwest Week.

Reconstructing Childhood



ON PRESIDENT'S DAY this year Natalie, 8, (left) traveled to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital with her family, including her mother, Tausha, to have reconstructive surgery done on her eye and have the stitches removed after having a tumor removed from behind her eye and sinus cavity.

After battling a rare form of brain cancer which took vision in one eye, 8-year-old Natalie searches to regain the lost years of her youth

By Stephanie Stangl
Editor in Chief

Bouncing about the room, careening in and out of furniture and train set pieces scattered across the living room floor, Natalie seems void of cares.

Her medium-brown colored ponytail bounces with her—a patch over her left eye and what lies beneath the only indicator of multiple surgeries and her battle with a rare form of brain cancer.

So rare in fact, it barely made the books.

At only 3 years old when most children are learning colors and the alphabet, playing and protesting naptime, Natalie's struggle began. Her left eyelid began to slightly sag—a slight change that went barely noticed and therefore, unworried about.

Five days after Tausha Taylor discovered she was pregnant with her second child, her first was diagnosed with primitive chordoma, a brain tumor: residing behind her left eye and sinus cavity. Twelve children had ever been diagnosed with the disease—Natalie made 13.

Life Interrupted

Tausha breezed through her undergraduate degree in psychology and criminal justice at Northwest knowing her first child was on the way. Days before Tausha walked across the stage in 1998, Natalie was born five weeks and five days premature, her lungs not fully developed.

"From the start she was a fighter," Tausha said remembering the first time Natalie's health worried her.

Nostalgia sends Tausha to the closet to pull out photo albums with pages detached and falling out from repeatedly flipping through. She pauses at a photo showing Natalie in an Easter floral dress right before she got sick, smiling an almost angelic smile with a huge number three towering behind her.

Not long after the snap of the shutter from this photo session, in September 2001 Roger, Natalie's step-father, and Tausha nicknamed their mini-van the "Puke Mobile" because every time the family went anywhere, no matter how far the trip or how

bumpy the ride, Natalie vomited in the van.

Vomiting coupled with light sensitivity prompted the couple to take Natalie to every doctor they could think of to try to figure out what was wrong. Opticians, psychologists, chiropractors and general care physicians couldn't determine an accurate diagnosis. Natalie was soon hospitalized for five days at Children's Mercy Hospital in Kansas City. Initially, doctors labeled her condition acid reflux or stomach flu and even accused Roger and Tausha of simply being overly concerned.

Finally someone stopped downplaying the severity of Natalie's condition. Shortly after she was released from Children's Mercy Tausha and Roger took her to a pediatric ophthalmologist who took one look at Natalie's sagging eyelid and now bulging orbital socket and determined it had to be a brain aneurysm or tumor. A week later Natalie was admitted to the hospital for more tests and an MRI.



NATALIE SITS posed for pictures to remember her at 3-years-old. Just months after this photo, Natalie's eye began to sag—the first indicator of her brain tumor.

see **CHILDHOOD** on A6

-BUILDING BRIDGES UPDATE

Board discusses proposal

By Kristin Summers
University Editor

While funding agents are still being pursued, preparation for a meeting with superintendents to discuss adjusting high school curriculums from Northwest's 14 feeder schools is underway.

The project planning team for Northwest President Dean Hubbard "Building Bridges" proposal meets Thursday to discuss suggestions to improve the proposal.

After the meeting on Thursday, superintendents from the 14 schools, where Northwest gets a large percentage of its students, will meet at the Northwest Kansas City Center in three or four weeks after Thursday's meeting, said Max Ruhl, dean of the College of Education and Human Services.

The "Building Bridges" proposal, which imitates California's Early Assessment Program, plans to bridge the gap between high school and college curriculums.

Members of the project planning team consists of Northwest faculty and staff who will be affected by the proposal once implemented, Ruhl said.

Late January, Hubbard, Ruhl and Maryville R-II School District Superintendent Vickie Miller met with the Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation, a possible funding agent, and state officials to receive input on the proposal.

see **PROPOSAL** on A6

-FRESHMEN SCHOLARSHIP

MOST 529 hosts new scholarship program

By Kristin Summers
University Editor

Possibly beginning in the fall, incoming Northwest freshmen involved in Missouri's MOST 529 program may receive a \$500 scholarship.

MOST 529 stands for Missouri's 529 College Savings Plan, which is named for Section 529 of the Internal Revenue Code, which plans to help individuals and families save for college, according to Missouri.most.s.upromise.com.

The Northwest Foundation is funding the 25 \$500 one-year MOST 529 Scholarships for students and families who have MOST 529 accounts for at least two years, said Del Morley, financial assistance director.

Requirements of Most 529 are a minimum requirement of \$25 regularly or \$15 from payroll direct deposit, a state income tax deduction of up to \$8,000 in contributions per person, Sen. Brad Lager said, who attended the press conference Friday, March 22 where Missouri State Treasurer Sarah Steelman and Northwest President Dean Hubbard announced the scholarships.

Only 25 scholarships can be given out a year and are

see **SCHOLARSHIP** on A6

CAMPUS BRIEFS

University, St. Francis team up for cystic fibrosis benefit

Northwest will play host to the annual Cat Walk and Health Fair Saturday, March 31 from 8 a.m. to 11 a.m. at Bearcat Arena. The event is also a benefit for cystic fibrosis.

"We have always done the cystic fibrosis walk and have had a small turnout," St. Francis Health and Education Coordinator Terri Harr said. "So what we've decided to do is a collaboration with the hospital and the University."

This year's event will be the second consecutive year that the University and St. Francis have teamed together.

"The Cat Walk is an event we have every year, and have had for a number of years," said Matt Symonds Northwest Be Well Committee member said. "It's just a one day event that is part of our faculty and staff wellness program."

The event costs \$2 to enter. Free at this year's Cat Walk are lung function screening, blood pressure screening, bone density scans and Cat Walk T-shirts.

Cholesterol screenings are available for \$15 with a recommendation of a 10-hour fasting.

The Cat Walk is open to all faculty, staff, students and community members.

Theatre Northwest concludes with two performances

The 2006-07 Theatre Northwest season will close with "The Yellow Boat" at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday and Friday in the Charles Johnson Theater and "Removing the Glove" at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, April 5 in the Charles Johnson Theater.

Tickets can be picked at the door. "Cost to see 'The Yellow Boat' is \$5 and \$3 for 'Removing the Glove'."

River String Quartet serving as quartet-in-residence on campus

The River String Quartet based in St. Joseph has agreed serve as the quartet-in-residence at Northwest and will perform a free concert for the first time with the Northwest Orchestra at 8 p.m. Tuesday, April 3, in the Charles Johnson Theater.

Assistant professor displays ceramics in exhibit

Laura Kukkee, assistant professor in the Art department, ceramics exhibit will open with a lecture and reception at 7 p.m. Monday, April 2, in the DeLuca Fine Arts Building in room 244.

Northwest recognizes Sexual Assault Awareness Month

The first event on campus for Sexual Assault Awareness Month is Thursday, April 5 is National "Day to End Sexual Violence" Day. A booth will be held in the J.W. Jones Student Union.

Wednesday, April 11 is Denim Day, where faculty, staff and students are encouraged to wear blue jeans. On Monday, April 16 is the Clothesline Project, where anyone can decorate a shirt to be displayed on a clothesline, will be in J.W. Jones Student Union. Tuesday, April 17, is the Lighting the Way candlelight vigil will start at 8 p.m. at the Bell Tower and end at the Nodaway County Courthouse.

For more information, contact University Wellness Center Program Director Stacy Wiedmer at 562-1598.

Bell ringing held in honor of Clint Johnson

A bell ringing was held at 10 a.m. Tuesday, March 27, in honor of Clint Johnson, who died at the University of Kansas Medical Center after a recurring second and third degree burns from a propane explosion on Sept. 26 at Shipp's Grain Elevator.

Academy student named in top 100

By Andrea James
Chief Reporter

Missouri is ranking its top high school seniors and one local student has secured a spot in the list.

Missouri Academy of Science, Mathematics and Computing student Benjamin Passer is added to Missouri Scholars 100; a program celebrating the top 100 seniors in Missouri, Missouri Academy Dean Cleopas Samudzi said.

The Missouri Association of Secondary School Principals sponsors the Missouri Scholars 100 program, Samudzi said. Educators statewide nominate students based on a set of criteria that include grade point average and ACT or SAT scores.

"He (Passer) is extremely bright with a 4.0 GPA and he is taking tough courses," Samudzi said. "However, I am not one who measures students on grades alone; how they act as a person matters also."

Passer transferred from Raytown High School in Raytown, Mo. This is his second year at the Academy, and this experience has given him the opportunity to go to college early.

"The school work here doesn't come as easily as it did in high school. There are good things as well as bad, but I've never questioned my decision to come here," Passer said.

The Academy acts as an early to college entrance program, Samudzi said. Students are accepted based on giftedness or high performance in math, science and computer technology.

Participants have the opportunity to go to classes side by side with traditional college students, he said. The Academy requires the students to have a structured curriculum of coursework, which is a little heavier than normal high school students. Each student will also graduate with a high school diploma and an Associate of Science degree from Northwest.

"A student has to be extremely bright to go through the Academy with a 4.0 GPA. Four or five students this year have come up that way," Samudzi said.

This is the Academy's second year of eligibility for Missouri Scholars 100 program, Samudzi said. In previous years, the Academy was excluded due to its structure of students.

There are two types of students, he said. Some students are still on the roster of their sending school and others are not. Samudzi argued about the lack of opportunity for this award and requested that Academy students be allowed to participate.

Sponsors of the program allowed students who are no longer on the roster of the sending school to participate, he said.

Even though Samudzi is proud of Passer and believes he is a good representative for the school, he sometimes feels guilty because there are other gifted students.

"We can't ask the organization to change the rules. Some students come from a high school with a high GPA and have it drop when they get here because of the tough classes," Samudzi said. "However, there needs to be some way to recognize more students for their bravery for wanting to do more than just padding their GPA."

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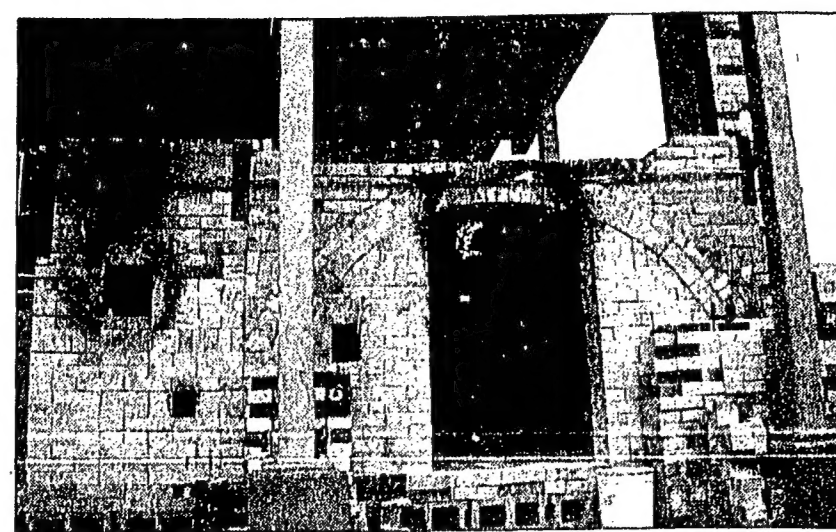
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THE ART DEPARTMENT first ever wood-burning kiln was fired up March 12 through midnight of March 14. During this time nearly 150 pieces of art were fired. The new wood burning kiln is located in front of the Fire Arts Building on campus.

Art building gets new kiln

By Shane Sherwood
Missourian Reporter

Flames belled near the grounds of the Fire Arts Building on March 14. Smoke rose into the sky.

The Northwest Art Department purchased of the oldest technologies to mankind, a wood-fire kiln. The kiln, named "Luna," is located in front of the Fire Arts Building on a deck specifically built for the kiln.

The kiln took approximately two weeks to complete, with Assistant Professor Laura Kukkee's ceramics classes building it during classes, ceramics major Laura Robertson said.

"Building and firing a wood kiln requires a large team effort and long hours of work," Kukkee said. "It took many students from the ceramics program and the Art Department to get the job done."

Sam Hoffman, a studio potter from Oregon who is an acknowledged expert in the construction of kilns and the wood firing of ceramics, helped with the construction of the kiln.

An official lighting ceremony for the kiln took place on March 12. During the lighting, about 150 projects remained in the clutches of the kiln until March 14. During the event, the kiln was finished being loaded. Hoffmann spoke on behalf of the special occasion. The kiln was also "blessed" with salt and sage, representing the purification of the kiln, Kukkee said.

"The kiln is great," Robertson said. "I love having it here."

For more information on the kiln or the Fire Arts Department, e-mail Kukkee at Kukkee@nwmissouri.edu.

Incense was burned, and the kiln was tossed with sparkling grape juice. The lighting ceremony could be described as an inauguration, like a ribbon cutting for a new building, Kukkee said.

The kiln was named "Luna" for many reasons. The sprung arch that supports the firing chamber is in the shape of a moon. Also, the kiln was lit for 36 hours with students spending time at night, working shifts to watch the kiln. Some artists also believe kilns are feminine, which is why the kiln received a feminine name, Kukkee said.

The kiln was constructed using wood and brick. It can last in a university setting for up to 20 years, Kukkee said.

Kukkee said students who learn wood firing normally have a greater understanding of modern techniques.

"They have to learn the whole process," Kukkee said. "How to construct the kiln, how to fuel the furnace, how to control the temperature, the amount of work that's involved. It's a very valuable experience."

Students who get to work with the kiln seem to enjoy the experience, as well. Robertson enjoys the kiln most of all.

"I love having it here."

For more information on the kiln or the Fire Arts Department, e-mail Kukkee at Kukkee@nwmissouri.edu.

Crime opens city's eyes

By Marcus Meade
Community Editor

They could be living right next door. People hear that all the time, but no one believes it. Not here. Not in our town. People didn't believe that these things happened in Maryville. Now they do.

The arrest of Jeremy Stine, a 28-year-old Maryville resident, on five counts of deviant sexual behavior with a minor, alarms the public but isn't as uncommon as one may think.

"Unfortunately it happens too often," said Director of Maryville Public Safety Keith Wood. "That was the second case that day we worked."

The Maryville Public Safety Department has an average of roughly one case a month dealing with sexual deviance with minors, Wood said. All of those investigations vary in severity and result from cases that yield no results to severe cases of child abuse.

Though the number of cases in Maryville are not high compared to other places, cases for such crimes can always be found, said David Baird, Nodaway County prosecuting attorney.

"We have cases like this going on all the time," Baird said. "At any given time, if you call the office here, we have three to five of these type of cases pending."

Maryville has 16 registered sex offenders, according to Family-watchdog.us, a Web site devoted to informing the public of local sex offenders.

Three of those offenders live within 1,000 feet of Horace Mann Laboratory School, while two others live within a half mile of Eugene Field Elementary School.

Even if these numbers aren't higher than normal, Wood believes that the severity of sexually deviant acts increases when dealing with a child.

"Not to diminish an adult, but when you talk about a child's psychology and physiology that makes it more serious," Wood said.

Those psychological issues can occur over both a long and short period of time, said Northwest Assistant Professor Jackie Kibler.

Child victims of sexual assault often experience problems with low self-esteem, sexualized behavior and trusting adults. In some cases, victims also show signs of post-traumatic stress disorder, Kibler said.

"They don't have the mental capacity to understand sexual behavior," Kibler said. "That makes it very difficult to handle."

The problems stemming from child molestation can also persist into adulthood, she said.

"Sexual abuse can be harder to treat than physical abuse," Kibler said. "Usually they know the person and they trusted that person."

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MHS donates to troops

By Andrea James
Chief Reporter

Maryville High School students are closer to finishing their community service project.

MHS students presented a celebratory check to 1st Lt. Travis Urbanek of the Missouri National Guard Wednesday. Urbanek was deployed to Iraq from December 2004 to January 2006.

The students collected over \$1,138 for the 129 Field Artillery B Battery unit located in Afghanistan, said Janet Jelavich, Maryville High School English department chair.

The students participated in the fund and raise for the troops in Jelavich's English classes, she said. Each year, the students raise money for a cause.

"I think that it is great that these kids are doing. It is always nice to know that you are supported at home and people are thinking of you," Urbanek said. "It's nice to come home from a long day to find a care package waiting for you."

Soldiers of 129 Field Artillery B Battery unit were first deployed to Fort Dix, N.J. for training, Urbanek said. There was a group that went in October and another in November. The soldiers were deployed to Afghanistan at the beginning of March.

The money raised for the soldiers should go to items such as unscented chap stick, sun block, CDs, DVDs, magazines and non-perishable goods, he said.

"It would be good to send small snacks; something a guy can stick in his pocket and go," Urbanek said.

MHS students held an intramural basketball tournament and a penny drive to raise the money. The students and faculty of MHS gathered at the pep assembly to watch the winners of the intramural basketball tournament play a faculty team, Jelavich said.

During intermission, students presented a check, read a list of MHS graduates who are deployed and had a moment of silence to honor those who weren't mentioned.

"We want to thank everyone on behalf of the soldiers for what they are doing. You don't know how much it means to the soldiers to know they are supported," Urbanek said.

The Missouri House of Representatives passed a bill recently creating a list among some teachers who are certified and those who are working on certification.

House Bill 620, which requires the State Board of Education to create an alternative certification process, was passed with mixed feelings.

"There is a shortage in the fields of math, science and engineering, and this will create a way for more people to be able to teach in these fields," Rep. Mike Thompson said.

The Missouri National Education Association strongly opposes this certification process. They feel it lacks the necessary requirements that teachers need to complete full certification. If this is to pass then the elementary and early childhood certifications should be excluded from any kind of alternate certification process, according to Missouri NEA.

"I think that this is a horrible idea. Teachers may know the content, but if they have no idea how to teach it, they are useless in the teaching profession," said junior Elementary Education major Michelle Thompson.

Northwest offers an assessment class for education majors. In this class they are shown the importance of having effective testing skills, showing students the best way for teachers to help students learn the information and study, Thompson said.

"I believe that if this bill passes we are going to have a lot more teachers who don't know how to properly teach students," Thompson said.

Another student at Northwest feels the same negativity toward this new bill.

"Teachers who don't complete a

full four year education process will never be able to compare to teachers who do. Teachers need to have the hands on experience that four year programs offer," said junior Secondary Education major Abbie Baker.

Thompson disagrees.

"In order for someone to go through this certification process they have to go through a lot of hoops. I don't think that it really is going to affect the quality of teachers," Thompson said.

The Missouri NEA believes that we need to establish state teaching standards so the policy clearly states what teachers need to know and what they need to be able to do.

This bill is on its way to the Senate. There it could sit for any given period of time, Thompson said.

To keep updated on this issue, go to Mogov and go under "bill tracking."

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COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Public library asks for donations for book sale

The Maryville Public Library is seeking donations for a book sale that will take place April 16 to 21. They request that all books be in good shape with no magazines or textbooks allowed. Donors can bring their donated books to the Maryville Public Library or request that the books be picked up. For more information call 562-5281.

MPR accepting job applications

The Maryville Parks and Recreation Department has begun taking summer job applications. To qualify to work for MPR, applicants must be at least 16 years old.

Job openings include: Cashiers, umpires and officials, scorekeepers, lifeguards, swimming instructors, swim coaches, maintenance staff and community center staff. Applications can be received at the Maryville Community Center. For more information call 562-2923.

—MYVIEW

Simulation worth a try

I never thought a two-and-a-half-day event could provide with so much experience and at the same time make my appreciation grow for those who serve our country.

Last week, while some were in warm destinations soaking up the sun on the beach, I was in Fort Leavenworth, Kan., at the Command and General Staff College acting as an embedded reporter in a military exercise.

The exercise was a computer simulation, and every hour something new would develop. It was my job to write a story at the end of the day about what happened.

This event was a win-win situation.

Part of the mission in this exercise was to give the students at Fort Leavenworth experience in talking to the press because the majority of them will have to do it at some point in their careers. Granted, there is information they can't disclose, but there are some things they can say without giving away classified information instead of the classic "no comment."

It also taught the students to avoid using acronyms and "military speak" while talking to the press so what they're saying can be understood and relayed accurately.

On the opposite end it gave student journalists like myself experience in covering military affairs. There were five students including me from Northwest, and there were also some students from Baker University in Baldwin City, Kan.

I'm not going to lie. I was really nervous on the way to Fort Leavenworth. I really hadn't been around anyone in the armed forces before. The thought of having to talk with military personnel intimidated me a little.

Once I got to my assigned classroom for the day, my nerves subsided as I met the group's assigned public

instructors as the students presented their information. The session was taped so the tape could be reviewed right after they were done.

Before and after the tape was reviewed the instructors asked me what I thought of the press conference and allowed me to make suggestions to the student that I thought could help them in the future.

To me as a journalist, this was completely foreign. I have conducted so many interviews, and have never been able to give feedback. It was such an amazing experience to be able to help them out, so it will go better for them the next time.

My appreciation for those who serve in the Armed Forces grew greatly as I visited with some of them about their experiences. One student told me how there were 80-some days left for his class at the college and he didn't know where he would be going next. There is a possibility he could be going to Iraq, and if that happens he will only have time to move his wife and kids to the base he will be stationed out of, and then he will have to leave soon after that.

It was hearing stories such as these that made me appreciate more what these troops do for our country.

My time at Fort Leavenworth was an enriching one. I never thought that I would take so much from an experience like this. I am looking forward to the trip back last year.



Lindsay Jacobs
Asst. Features Editor



—MYVIEW

Hosting parties bittersweet job

Everyone loves parties. Whether they're just a few friends over for a movie night or a five-keg blow-out taking up the whole street, we all seem to flock to social gatherings.

The idea of attending a party is an easy decision. Your friends are there, beer is there, etc. But the idea of hosting a party can easily lead to a train wreck of a night.

If you were the first of your friends to actually buy a house, congratulations. You were able to put your beer down long enough to do something with your life. But with every pro, comes a con.

Because you have a house, not an apartment, or your parent's house, but your own house, you will most likely be connected into being the host of your friends' parties. It sounds like a great

time, so you agree, even though you really didn't even have a choice. Your friends are pumped. They start bringing over ping pong balls for beer pong, plastic toys for a dizzy bat and enough beer to literally feed an army.

Now if you're like me, you know where this will lead. As a girlfriend of a successful 23-year-old businessman with his own house,

I have been given the role as the greeter/bartender/cleaning crew. Not only do I have to pretend to like some of his friends, I have to fetch them a beer whenever their little hearts desire and I have to pick up the can the next morning. Luckily, my friends will be attending as well, so I grin and bear it.

Because the appropriate starting time is as early as imaginably possible,

people start arriving at 5 p.m. It's happy hour in their minds.

The early worms play card games to gain a buzz until more and more people arrive. Soon the house has reached maximum capacity, and then some as people spill out into the garage and street.

Like a junior high dance, the guys flock to the beer and the Wi as the girls flutter to the punch and couches. We ignore one another until a new couple entangled in each other enters the room and makes all the old couples feel bad about ignoring their other half. So one will find the other just long enough to say hi and then quickly go back to their opposite corners.

Everything is in full gear by 9 p.m. Ms. 12-ounces of wine coolers has reached her limit as she passes out first. But Mr. 40s and Mr. Obnoxious is still going strong and offending everyone in their path. Slowly but surely, people start dropping like flies around 11 p.m.

As incidents and injuries start occurring. Someone "accidentally" jumps on the beer pong table and snaps it in half. Someone "accidentally" spills green punch all over the carpet. And someone "accidentally" starts crying over who knows what.

Soon the house is nearly empty except for those too far gone to leave. Too tired to care about anything, you pass out on your bed. You'll deal with it tomorrow. As the sun peaks through the window and birds chirp just loud enough to piss you off, you finally decide to get up. You rub your bloodshot eyes and gaze at the mess before you.

Red plastic cups spread for endless miles wide with crops circles of spills in the carpet. You swear over and over under your breath as you pick up can after can. "Never will there ever be people over here again." At least not until next weekend.

—COMMENTS FROM NWMISSOURIANNEWS.COM

In response to "A Silent Struggle" Randigo and Rex Moore
Posted 3/15/07

Just a few lines to say our son, Tn. Moore, was diagnosed with autism and mental retardation when he was 2 years old. And we commend everyone that speaks out on this certain subject. These children do have every right to be heard and noticed for all in they do. Our son will be attending Eugene Field Elementary this fall. We are well as others including Tn. himself try every day to fit in. And like the article said, people in this world treat these kids like pure trash. That's all for now but thanks for the opportunity to comment on the article in the paper.

Thank you,
The Moores

In response to "Students to raise money for troops" Karissa
Posted 3/19/07

I met my fiancé online about three years ago and we are getting married in May. I had gone on several online dates prior to her and met some really great girls. I agree wholeheartedly with your article.

—MYVIEW

Editor visits the Big Apple

When I was younger, I used to bring up Encarta Encyclopedia on our Gateway and look up its article on Times Square.

Why? Because included with the article was this amazing, interactive, panoramic photo of the New York landmark. You could click and drag your mouse up, down, left and right, and see the place on your computer screen from every angle imaginable.

I immediately put New York on my "Places to Visit" list, not knowing when I would actually have the time, or more importantly, the money, to make it happen.

Fast forward to the 2007 College Media Advisers convention. It's here where my dream came true. I had the most incredible opportunity two weeks ago to start my Spring Break early and head to the Big Apple. A group of us from Student Publications headed to the convention

to further our knowledge about journalism—where it is now and where it's headed in the future.

Of course, the sessions we attended and the speakers we heard were very informative, but the real fun came afterward, when we hit the bustling streets of the "City That Never Sleeps." (And indeed, we did very little of that.)

Granted, the weather could've been better for slush on the sidewalks with sleet stinging your face and the wind turning your whole body to ice.

But we made the most of it, and took in as much as we could, even though we could never master the accent.

We saw the major landmarks—the Empire State Building, Ground Zero, the Statue of Liberty, Grand Central Station, the "Today Show," etc.—all within the span of a few too-short days. And of course, I got

to experience a live panoramic view of Times Square.

I know, I probably sound like the typical New York tourist, just back from being dazzled by the dizzying subway rides, inspiring Broadway shows and the sight of the Beatles' suits on display in the Hard Rock Café.

I've walked the streets of several cities over the years. I live near St. Louis, and have been to downtown Kansas City, Columbus, Ohio; Washington, D.C.; and even Chicago.

There's something different about New York. It's hard to firmly put your finger on it if you don't live there or haven't visited very often.

But I think it definitely has something to do with the people. The city itself seems like an entirely different country, even though the currency is U.S. dollars, and most of the signs are in English. Yet the amount of spirit and diversity represented by the things you see and the people you meet is staggering.

Whether or not they are natives doesn't matter; the people of New York love their city. You can see it in their step as they cruise with

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CAMPUSTALK

Did you have a NCAA bracket, and how are you doing?

"No, I didn't do it. I lose."
Tyler Wright
Management Information Systems

"Yeah, I'm just happy KU lost."
Huwie Ball
Sex ed Science Education

"I did, it's not doing too good though."
Megan Molloy
Special Education

"Well, I got one team in the Final Four and I have 81 points on Facebook."
Jake Koehn
Accounting, Corporate Finance

"Yeah, I've got two teams in the Final Four."
Justin Cooney
Dancing

PUBLIC SAFETY

March 7
■Steven S. Ashley, 41, Maryville, was arrested for larceny and shoplifting.

March 8
■Vehicle damage was reported on 600 E. Block First.

March 9
■John S. Shaffer, 21, Maryville, was arrested for disorderly conduct.

March 10
■William E. Babcock III, 19, Stewartville, Mo., was arrested for resisting arrest, failure to comply, MIP and indecent exposure.
■Michael J. Wilson, 19, Stewartville, Mo., was arrested for resisting arrest, failure to comply and MIP.
■A simple assault was reported on 400 N. Block Buchanan. This is an ongoing investigation.

March 11
■Arthur L. Johnson II, 22, Maryville, was arrested for DWII, driving while suspended and equipment violation.
■Kimberly J. Thurman, 19, Blue Springs, Mo., was arrested for MIP.

March 12
■Lamar A. Gibson, 20, St. Joseph, Mo., was arrested for failure to appear.
■Sexual Misconduct was reported on 600 W. Block Halsey. This is an ongoing investigation.

March 13
■A red and tan Buick was towed on 100 W. Block Halsey.
■Matthew H. Hager, 17, Maryville, was arrested for property damage and possession of drug paraphernalia.
■Robert E. Wallace Jr., 26, Maryville, was arrested for failure to appear.

March 14
■Ryan P. McClain, 19, Maryville, was arrested for MIP and possession of another's ID.

March 15
■A green Grand Prix was towed on 300 N. Block Main.

March 16
■Jesse J. Stinnett, 26, Maryville, was arrested for DWI, improper registration and possession of drug paraphernalia.
■A two vehicle accident was reported on Third and Walnut street in Maryville between Seth L. Hams, 22, Maryville and Kelly E. Rodriguez, Maryville.
■An ongoing investigation of possession of controlled substance was reported on 1600 S. Block Main.

March 17
■A two vehicle accident was reported on W. South Ave. and Main street between Jessica A. Van Denes, 18, Maryville and Key A. Wilson, 51, Barnard, Mo. Van Denes was cited for careless and imprudent driving and failure to show proof of insurance.

March 18
■A two vehicle accident was reported on the intersection of Seventh and Dewey between Nicholas Lydon, Maryville, and an unknown driver.

March 19
■Heather M. Rundo, 19, Maryville, was arrested for MIP.
■Keenan V. Spight, 20, Maryville, was arrested for DWI and careless and imprudent driving.
■A hit and run was reported on 1600 N. Block Grand Ave.

March 20
■David L. Schluter, 21, Maryville, was arrested for leaving the scene of an accident.
■Ashley D. Reed, 19, Maryville, was arrested for DWI and improper registration.
■Heather M. Rundo, 19, Maryville, was arrested for MIP.
■Larceny of a box 360 games was reported on 200 E. Block Third.

March 21
■A black Grand Prix was towed on 100 S. Block Mulberry.

March 22
■Lance E. Luehrs, 44, Bradenton, Fla., was arrested for code violation.

BIRTH/ANNOUNCEMENTS
Keyte Elizabeth Parker
Bradley and Lynn Parker are the parents of Keyte Elizabeth Parker, born March 8, 2007 at St. Francis Hospital.
Keyte weighed 7 pounds and joins siblings Jonlyn and Austin.

OBITUARIES
Martha (Schieber) Buhman, 82, of rural Stanberry, Mo., died Tuesday, March 27, 2007 at her home, with her family at her side.

She was born March 29, 1924, in Conception, Mo., the daughter of Aloysius George (Eli) and Anna Marie (Hengge) Schieber. On April 8, 1947 she married Gilbert Buhman in Conception, Mo. He died in 1998. She was a member of St. Columba Parish and St. Ann's Altar Society, Conception Junction. The YM Club, Stanberry, Mo., and the Clyde Ladies Club.

Survivors are her husband; Gilbert Buhman, of their home sons and daughters-in-law: Edmund and Betty Buhman, Darlington, Mo.; Donald and Marilyn Buhman, Kavenwood, Mo.; Philip and Joana Buhman, Columbus, Neb.; daughters, and sons-in-law: Carolyn and John Ridenour, Council Bluffs, Iowa; Marcia and Dennis Redden, Stanberry, Mo.; and Diane and Phillip Jensen, Stanberry, Mo. 19 grandchildren; 10 great-grandchildren and many nieces and nephews.

Visitation is 6-7 p.m. Thursday, March 29, at St. Columba Catholic Church, Conception Junction, Mo., with a prayer service at 7 p.m.

Mass of Christian Burial is 9:30 a.m. Friday, March 30, at St. Columba Catholic Church, Conception Junction. Burial is in St. Columba Cemetery, Conception.

Memorials may be made to EWTN or Hands of Hope Hospice in Martha's name.

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SEARCH: Center looks for tenant

continued from A1

according to the Junction City Web site, Jeks.com.

Ventria Bioscience, a biopharmaceutical company and once a possible tenant for the Center, announced in September 2006 it was bringing a bioprocessing facility for plant-made pharmaceuticals to Junction City, Kan., according to Ventria.com.

Though Ventria is already in Junction City, Kan., Ferguson said Ventria and Edenspace were similar but different because they work in two separate markets.

Some of the reasons for Edenspace's decision were the cost and quality of living, access to people with biotechnol-

ogy experience

Another reason was due to unsure funding for the Center but that was not the main reason why they didn't choose to relocate to Northwest, Ferguson said.

With several companies taking interest in the Center, after funding, more than one company could move into the building, Hubbard said.

If the updated Lewis and Clark Discovery Initiative projects pass the Missouri Legislature, it would give the Center \$24.4 million to fully complete the \$30 million project.

The projects are attached to Senate Bill 389, and as of press time no decision was made by the Senate and it will be discussed on the floor at a later date.

PROPOSAL: Plans move forward

continued from A1

The Kauffman Foundation focuses on entrepreneurship and education. In education, they focus on improve academic achievements particularly in Kansas City schools, according to Kauffman.org. Recently, the Kauffman Foundation gave \$5.6 million to help with urban schools in the Missouri and Kansas, Kansas City area, Hubbard said.

Another possible funding agent Hubbard has been talking with is the

Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. The Gates Foundation not only focuses on reducing inequities in the United States and the world but also focuses on improving higher education in the United States, according to Gatesfoundation.org.

No major changes have been made the proposal but Ruhl would like to see more urban school districts in the proposal.

The next step, if funding is met, is preparation for summer workshops to start adjusting curriculums, Ruhl said.

SCHOLARSHIPS: New program targets incoming freshmen

continued from A1

need-based. The scholarships were originally intended to be offered for the 2008-09 academic year with applications due by March 1, 2008 but due to interest in having it ready for the Fall, it could be offered by then, Morley said.

A benefit from the MOST 529 program is that money saved in the MOST 529 account can be used for more than one person, Lager said. Another benefit is tax-free federal and Missouri State income withdrawals.

The MOST scholarships complements the American Dream Grant, Hubbard said. The American Dream Grant is also for first-time freshmen at Northwest.

Hubbard and his wife, Aleta, were some of the first investors in the MOST 529 program, Hubbard said. To apply for the scholarship students need to send a statement showing their MOST 529 account exists to the Financial Aid office, Morley said.

For more information about joining the MOST 529 program, go to MissouriMost.upromise.com.

CHILDHOOD: Girl travels to St. Jude for prosthetic eye piece

continued from A1

As doctors announced to parents seated in the waiting area that their children would be OK, Tausha knew something was terribly wrong when doctors led her and her husband into an adjacent room.

Doctors soon told them what they already sensed: Natalie had a brain tumor, but doctors couldn't determine what type.

It wouldn't be until two weeks later that a doctor in St. Louis could identify that the tumor was primitive chordoma resting behind her left eye. The tumor started out the size of a pencil tip—each day doubling in size, unbeknownst to Natalie or her parents, Roger said.

"My first question was, 'What about her eye?'" Tausha said. "Your little girls are supposed to be your little princesses and I didn't want her to lose her vision or be disfigured."

The Taylor's couldn't wrap their minds around the diagnosis and the doctors at Children's Mercy couldn't determine an accurate diagnosis because of the low prevalence and demographic of the disease normally affects. Primitive chordoma typically affects middle-aged Caucasian males with 78 total cases reported in the United States. Mortality rates are nearly 100 percent within five years of diagnosis, Roger said.

So, Natalie didn't just beat the odds, she defied logic.

At St. Jude Children's Research Hospital nurse set "Childhood Cancer: A Handbook from St. Jude Children's Research Hospital," a 605-page book of information

regarding various cancers in front of Tausha and Roger at the initial consultation in Memphis. Flipping through the pages, Tausha couldn't even find information regarding Natalie's cancer.

Because St. Jude had never treated a child for primitive chordoma, Natalie was the protocol and doctors had to guess at effective treatment. Doctors knew surgery to remove the tumor and radiation were the first steps, with chemotherapy most likely to follow.

During the surgery to remove the tumor, Tausha and Roger sat by the phone, the surgeons feeding them updates over the line. Minutes before Tausha signed a permission slip that if necessary, doctors could remove Natalie's left eye.

"I had to deal with that possible loss," Tausha said. "I know we grieve for our body parts. I gave birth to such a perfect child and I was feeling like it would make her not whole."

Surgeons suctioned fatty tissues behind her eye to make sure all cancer cells were removed. Natalie's eye now served as a sort of pillow as they tried to build the eye out far enough to help keep the eyelid up.

Meanwhile Tausha and Roger waited for phone calls. Each third of the receiver was another assurance her eye didn't have to be removed.

Eight and a half hours of surgery and phone calls and Natalie came out of the surgery with her eye still intact with the muscles pulled over the eye and the nerves severed that controlled eye movement. After finishing the

procedure, doctors sewed her left eye shut.

On March 26 the family traveled to Memphis to have a prosthetic shell placed over Natalie's eye. The next day doctors worked for four hours to form the mold for the prosthetic, baking it and then adding the acrylic shell. Everything from the pupil to the tiny, red veins were hand painted on the eye.

While the eye doesn't move and she may never see out of it again, the shell replicates her other eye in nearly every detail. Tausha now searches for a doctor to perform eyelash reconstructive surgery.

Forever Changed

Natalie can never have short hair again because of the bald spot on the back of her head, and she will suffer constant urinary problems because of radiation and chemotherapy.

Also, a steroid is given to her three times a day and she takes a multi-vitamin and calcium supplements. After a bone is subjected to radiation the bone no longer grows, therefore when her head is fully grown she will have to have reconstructive surgery.

Cognitively, Natalie is substantially behind her classmates in subjects such as spelling, reading and writing and every day Natalie is given a growth hormone shot because she is still incredibly short and small for her age.

Doctors remain cautious about using the word "cured," even though Natalie's cancer has been inactive for nearly five years. She'll continue to go back to St. Jude once a year for check-ups until she's 18.

But the family doesn't focus on the "what ifs." Instead, Natalie is active in dance and swimming just focusing on redeeming some shards of a missed childhood. Also, not a school assembly or t-ball game goes missed for all of this has opened Tausha's eyes to the importance of spending time with her children.

"If it wasn't for St. Jude I would have missed her first homerun, her first caught fish, losing her first tooth," Tausha said. "I probably put more value on some of those things than my peers, but I also got closer than losing all of that."

Repaying an Insurmountable Debt

Natalie and her family now spend their days trying to give back to St. Jude and cancer supportive organizations. The family goes to as many events as they can, telling the story of how St. Jude helped save Natalie's life, and telling how St. Jude gave Tausha and Roger a hope that she would live to go to college and get married.

"She's going to make a great Bearcat someday," Tausha said.

Through fund raisers for St. Jude and Camp Quality, a camp for kids with cancer, Natalie and her family have helped raise over \$1 million.

Natalie never misses country singer Kevin Sharp's Camp Quality benefit concerts at Northwest and has been a camper at Camp Quality for the past five years.

"The additional time I've had with Natalie is priceless," Tausha said. "I'll never be able to repay St. Jude even if I donate the rest of my life to fund raisers."

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SPORTS

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—MHS BASEBALL

Weather hinders routine

By Scott Levine
Community Sports Editor

The Maryville baseball team is ready for the weather to cooperate.

As the diamond sits soaking through a mix of melted snow and rain showers, the Spoofhounds continue practicing fundamentals in the gym. But this isn't how the season was supposed to start.

The 'Hounds opened the season March 19 against Nebraska City and have not played a game since. Maryville coach Thom Alvarez is frustrated with the inability to see his team on the field.

"We've just been doing a lot of defensive drills and batting practice," Alvarez said. "It's slow getting things done and until we start playing games, it will be hard to find things we need to improve on."

Now Maryville must depend on Mother Nature's cooperation today when they travel to Lafayette. It has been 10 days since the 'Hounds have seen live game action, and the team is ready to get back on the field.

This long wait has returning RBI leader Matt Parker ready to see how much improvement the team has made since facing Nebraska City.

"I think we're going to hit the ball much better this time around," Parker said. "We didn't hit like we could last game."

see ROUTINE on B2

—MHS BA

'Cats split with Griffons

By Scott Levine
Community Sports Editor

If reaching base equaled runs, then the Northwest softball team would have cruised by Missouri Western during Tuesday's doubleheader. Unfortunately for the Bearcats, however, scoring isn't calculated that way.

Both teams garnered 2-1 victories, despite Northwest's advantage on the base paths. The 'Cats stranded 21 runners during the doubleheader with nine in game one and 12 in game two.

Northwest's nine stranded runners matched Missouri Western's totals for both games. This glaring statistic worried Northwest coach Ryan Anderson.

"Everybody is in a slump right now," Anderson said. "Everybody is waiting for everyone else to get something started."

Although Northwest featured runners on base during 12 of the 14 innings, the 'Cats mustered eight hits during the doubleheader. Northwest's batters were aided with 15 walks by Missouri Western pitchers.

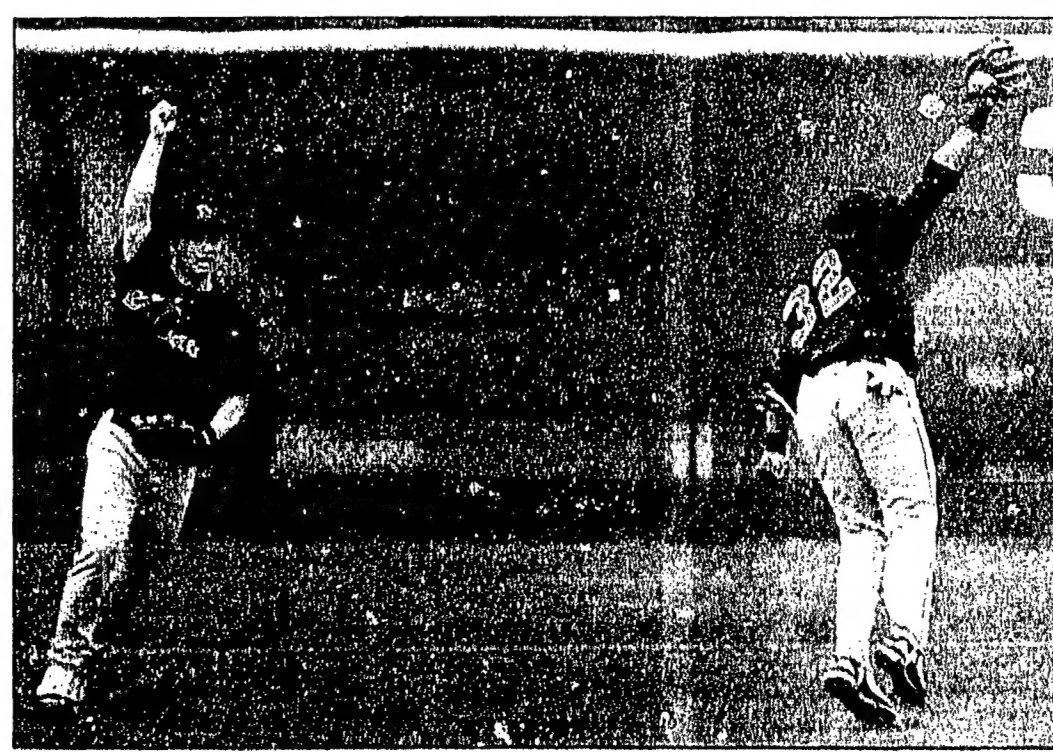
"They were putting us on base and giving us a chance," Anderson said. "But we really struggled."

After two first inning runs, the Griffons were unable to manufacture a run, but the 'Cats batters remained silent until the sixth inning of game one.

Kaila Ballard's double knocked in Courtney Channell giving Northwest's offense life with only one out in the sixth inning. However, Sarah Johnson remained

see SPLIT on B2

—NW BASEBALL



NORTHWEST OUTFIELDER Chris Benham (right) celebrates with Drew DeMott (left) after Benham made a diving catch to force an out during game 1 against Fort Hayes on Saturday. The Bearcats beat the Tigers 8-2 in game one, and 8-4 in game two in Saturday afternoon's doubleheader.

'I will play again'

By Brett Barger
University Sports Editor

Northwest wide receiver Abe Qaoud is here to say that he'll play in 2007.

"I know for a fact that I'm going to play this year," Qaoud said. "I'm going to bust my ass this summer and do everything I can to play."

Qaoud's younger brother, David, told his brother at the hospital that the crowd next season will go crazy when he catches his first touchdown.

"He's really goal oriented, so he's going to try and accomplish things, according to what he wants to do," David said. "Football is something that he wants to do, so he wants to get back out there as soon as he can."

The injuries he sustained in a fire at Carson Apartments, Jan. 27, are healing. However, coming back to the gridiron involves some risk for Qaoud, who must wear protective garments on his legs for 18 months. One cut to his skin lands him back in surgery. He will never sweat from his legs again, having lost his sweat glands from the burns, so dehydration becomes a concern during workouts, practices and games—quite a change from being 10 seconds away from losing his legs and 20 seconds from death.

So why risk further injury to play football? "Because they said I couldn't do it. That's it," Qaoud

said. That was the consensus among doctors, initially, after Qaoud suffered third-degree burns to his legs, a fractured eye socket, bruised lung, separated shoulder and rib fractures. Six surgeries and two weeks of rehab later, the opinions have changed.

Now, those same surgeons from the University of Kansas Medical Center, who performed six surgeries grafting skin from his back, stomach and shoulders to replace his badly burnt skin on his legs, already have tickets for the first game.

Soon, Qaoud will begin intense rehab, which will serve as a measuring stick for his progress.

"I can't wait for that," Qaoud said. "Every time they put me to the test, I'd pass it with flying colors, so I'm ready."

After that, he will attend speed camps and begin strength and conditioning programs with assistant coach Richard Wright—all normal routines.

Northwest coach Mel Tjeerdsma said he feels confident that Abe will play.

"I feel really good. I don't have any doubt," Tjeerdsma said. "He said all the time that he was going to play."

For Qaoud, there was no option but to be ready.

see QAOUD on B3

Late rally not enough

By Sam Robinson
Chief Reporter

In the midst of a season-turning conference start, the Northwest baseball team hit a bump in the road, Tuesday.

Wayne State (Neb.) defeated Northwest for the second time in as many weeks Tuesday 7-6 at Wayne's Pete Chapman Baseball Complex to halt the team's three-game win streak.

The loss drops the Bearcats back to .500 at 13-13 but is only the team's fourth in their last 13 games.

After getting pasted 8-2 at home last Tuesday by the Wildcats, the 'Cats took a 1-0 lead into the bottom of the first. Starter Bill Disselhoff recorded two quick outs then endured a hit parade that saw the host team notch six hits and four runs to break the game open.

Following three additional Wildcat runs, the deficit was five heading into the sixth inning. While the 'Cats folded in this

situation in last week's encounter, they did not go quietly this time.

Senior John White started the sixth inning charged with a single and Ryley Westman drove him in with his third hit of the day. Stevie Bush then dove in the senior catcher with a double of his own to make it 7-4. Third baseman Ben Malik's sacrifice fly cut the lead to one but that was all the scoring they could muster as the 'Cats were shut down the rest of the way.

Junior Britt Westman, who homered in the loss, said the close defeat was not due to the lack of preparation on the team's part.

"There's nothing we really could've done a whole lot better," Westman said. "We just hit some balls right at guys. We did come out a little flat but not a lot needs to be improved on (before this weekend)."

Catch Darin Loe attributed the late rally to the recent run of success the team has had.

"This team's got a lot more confidence than we had last week," Loe said. "A lot of

that has to do with beating Fort Hays last weekend."

Loe's assertion rings true on paper as his team, after starting out 3-4, roared out of the conference gates over the break by taking three of four from Southwestern Baptist on March 16 and 17 and did the same to Fort Hays State last weekend.

The Tigers, who many predicted to win the MIAA according to Loe, were tamed by the continued precision of Bearcat starting pitching. In the three wins, Northwest's starters controlled the games by each going beyond six innings and allowing less than three runs.

Following a 5-1 loss in game one last Friday, Bret Harvel took the mound in the nightcap and struck out nine Tigers in 6.2 innings leading the way to a 4-2 victory.

In game three on Saturday, senior Brian Laners matched Harvel's dominant outing by going the distance for the second time

see RALLY on B2

-NW WRESTLING

Wrestling club concludes second season

By Sam Robinson
Chief Reporter

While last season was its inaugural campaign, the Northwest Wrestling Club's coming out party may have come at the end of this season.

The club finished fourth at the Southwest Conference Championships on Feb. 27 ahead of several traditional Big 12 teams, and followed that up with a 36th (out of 67 teams) place finish at the National Collegiate Wrestling Association Championships March 10.

Coach Chris Schwartz was impressed that the team out-pointed powerhouse schools with talent pools five times the size of Northwest's.

"Here we are in Maryville. Mo. a school of like 6,000," Schwartz said. "They've (the traditional Division I schools) got 30,000 students. It just says a lot for the guys to compete at that level."

At the conference championships in Boulder, Colo., Northwest scored 76 points to finish fourth behind traditional Division I schools Colorado State and Kansas State. Finishing behind Northwest were powerhouse schools Colorado and LSU.

Individually, freshman 174-pounder Dallas Barrett fought through 11 wrestlers to place third while freshman Preston Reeves notched second in the 285-pound class.

Barrett and Reeves, along with four others, punched tickets to nationals in Texas.

Of the six wrestlers who quali-

fied, Barrett was the only one to win his first-round match. He pinned his opponent in 1 minute and 38 seconds to advance to the second round to face Grand Valley's defending national champion, Michael Paul. Barrett and Paul dueled to a 10-9 decision that went against Northwest's freshman grappler.

One hundred and twenty-five-pound Shannon Fowler and 235-pound Jim Howe lost in the first round but each notched wins in the consolation bracket's opening round.

Despite the early exits, Northwest accumulated 14 points and finished ahead of 31 schools, many of them athletic powerhouses in Kentucky, Georgia and Auburn.

"I think that's a pretty big deal in only two years as a program to beat that many schools," Barrett said.

As for next season, the club returns all of its 14 wrestlers and will start conditioning the first week of school.

Schwartz saw his small squad compete well this season and is seeing a combination of the club's newfound reputation and marketing strategy attracting new wrestlers.

"A lot of it is word of mouth," Schwartz said. "We go on Missouri and Iowa wrestling forums to tell people we're here and try to get interest. I just got an e-mail from a coach in Missouri that has a two-time state place winner interested in coming here. Word is getting out that Northwest has a team and people are getting interested in coming here to wrestle."

ROUTINE: Getting back into the swing of things

continued from B1

Maryville trailed 5-1 early against Nebraska City, before battling back to eventually lose 7-5.

"We were down early, but we looked good as we battled back into the game," Alvarez said. "The first inning we looked like we had some jitters for being our first time out there."

Klay Talmadge and Tyler Oglesby produced two hits apiece against Nebraska City. Talmadge

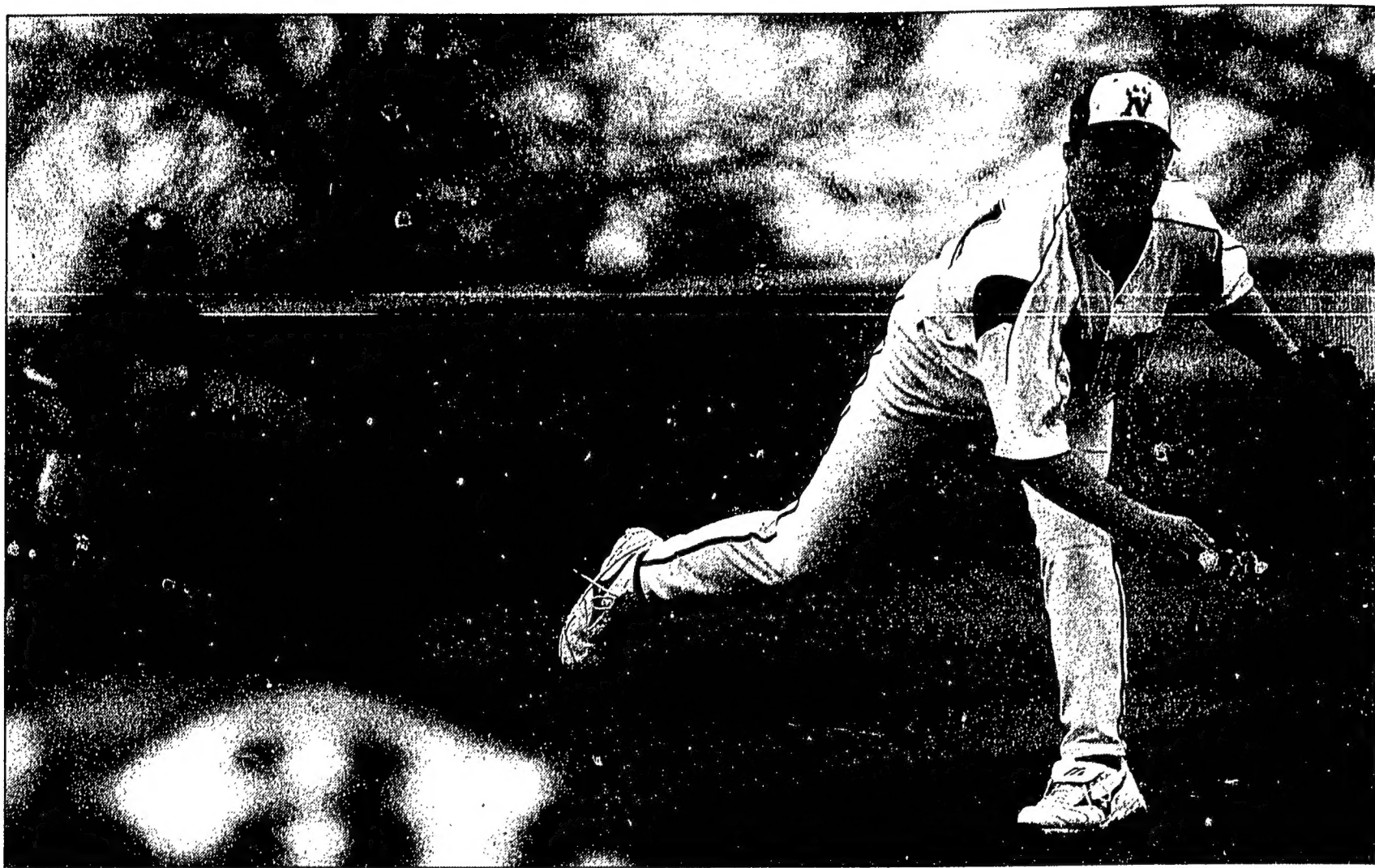
drove in two runs, as Cory Cronk suffered the loss.

Cronk served up four runs, but Alvarez expects him to fare well against Lafayette.

"(Cronk) looked good, but we had a fielding error and some silly things happen when he was out on the mound," Alvarez said. "We hope to cut out those mental mistakes this time around."

After today's game against Lafayette, the 'Hounds return to action at noon, Saturday, at the Excelsior Springs tournament.

-NW BASEBALL



NORTHWEST PITCHER Matt Kelley pitches the ball during game one against Fort Hayes State during Friday afternoon's doubleheader. The Bearcats lost to the Tigers 5-1 in game one, and won 4-2 in game two.

RALLY: Sixth inning charge not enough to continue win streak

continued from B1

this year en route to an 8-2 blasting of the Tigers.

Loe has seen his pitchers carry the load this year and said the staff is far ahead of where it was last season.

"It's night and day from last

year to this year," Loe said. "As a pitching staff, I think our five starters are probably better than what we've had top to bottom. On top of that we got a great bullpen. That's definitely been our key to success so far."

Game four saw Joel Epley go six innings and allow two runs in

an 8-4 victory to give the series to the 'Cats.

Northwest begins a four-game set against Missouri Southern (10-15) at 7 p.m. on Friday in Joplin.

"Southern's one of those teams if you take them lightly they're going to beat you," Loe said. "They're better this year but it's

definitely a team when you look at them on paper, we're supposed to go down there and get four wins. We've got to go down there with the same mentality that we're playing a top level team because we're sitting second in the conference right now but we're a weekend away from eighth."

SPLIT: 'Cats battle back for game 2 win against Missouri Western

continued from B1

stranded at third base ending the threat.

Freshman Erin Leslie said the team was frustrated during the first game, but was able to notch a victory during game two.

"We ended the first game on a positive note with some hits," Leslie said. "We brought it to the second game and after scoring that first run, it really took the weight off our shoulders."

Lindsay Stephenson started the second game with a single and Leslie joined her on the base paths after singling to left field. After Ballard loaded

the bases with a walk, Megan Simpson recorded an RBI after drawing the inning's second base on balls.

The 'Cats loaded the bases again in the fifth inning, only to see Simpson drive in the lone run on another walk.

"All we can do is to go up and have good at-bats," Anderson said. "We can't control if the other team makes a good play, but we can still go up there and have good at-bats."

Despite holding a 2-0 lead into the sixth inning, Missouri Western threatened as Mendi Nociu stole home cutting the deficit to one with no outs and runner in scoring position.

However, Cola Krueger managed

to get the next three batters out securing the victory.

Anderson said the defense and pitching were the most consistent parts of the team.

"Both pitchers threw well," Anderson said. "The defense was there to make stops, but we didn't have the bats to go with it."

Krueger managed the victory after striking out five and giving up one earned run. Kelly Morris surrendered two earned runs in game one as her season's record dropped to 5-4. Morris registered three strikeouts and didn't walk anyone.

The doubleheader split came after the 'Cats notched two victories over Rockhurst Monday. Stephenson and Simpson registered three hits as Johnson belted her fourth homer of the season during an 8-1 victory in game one.

Morris allowed no walks and recorded nine strikeouts during the victory, while Krueger picked up the win in game two after not allowing a hit until the fourth inning.

Chelsea Terhune produced two hits and Leslie managed two RBIs.

The 'Cats record moved to 13-7 overall and 2-2 in the conference after Tuesday's split. Northwest returns to action Saturday and Sunday at the Nebraska-Omaha tournament.

Annual heptathlon re-named in Nally's honor

Bearcats host annual multievents

By Jared Verner
Missouri Sports Editor

For years, Herschel Neil has been the namesake for Northwest Track and Field. In the 1970s the Herschel Neil Decathlon/Heptathlon was established as a way of honoring the 1936 triple jump national champion. In 2007, another name will be memorialized as the heptathlon portion honors another Bearcat athlete.

The women's portion of the annual multi-events meet held Sunday and Monday will be renamed the Ashley Nally Heptathlon. It's been over two years since Nally, a jumper and hurdler for the Northwest track team, died from injuries suffered in an automobile accident south of Bedford, Iowa.

At the time, women's head coach Scott Loeke was working with Nally to compete in the outdoor heptathlon.

"Having this named in her honor is a real tribute to who she was and

what she was to the University and the team," Loeke said. "I'm glad that it's happening."

"She was a tremendous person," Loeke said. "A coach once said to me that there are some people who sort of take energy away from you, and there are people who put energy back into you, and Ashley was that person."

Ashley's parents, Dan and Cindy Nally, are expected to attend a recognition ceremony prior to the beginning of the meet.

The Northwest men will host the Herschel Neil Decathlon over the same period of the Ashley Nally Heptathlon. Both meets begin Sunday afternoon and conclude the following day.

Both teams open outdoor season. The men's team captured four individual titles at the Pittsburg State Open on March 15 to open the 2007 season.

"I don't think any of the performances as a mark was anything exceptional in any of the cases," said

men's head coach Richard Alsop. "It was a good outdoor start."

Senior Matt Pohlen set a new personal record in the 5,000-meter run, finishing first with 15:36.82. He out-paced the field by nearly 15 seconds.

"Maybe the most exceptional (performance) was Matt Pohlen, because he ran it literally by himself and ran a reasonable time in doing so," Alsop said.

Sophomore Khal Berry took top honors in the 110-meter hurdles with 15.21, with sophomore Kendall Wright following in a third a tenth of a second later. Wright also won the long jump in 22-11.

Freshman Ben McKim rounded out Bearcat champions with the shot put title, recording 49-13/4.

Senior Bayo Adio kept a full schedule at the meet, competing in four events. He finished second in the high jump, his standard event, and placed third in both long and triple jumps. Adio also ran the last leg of the 4x100-meter relay for the first time at Northwest.

"I thought that if I put Bayo at the end, there's no way he can screw this up, but he did," Alsop said. "He took off too fast and ran out of the exchange zone. He had a lot of fun. He did lots of stuff that day."

The women spent their first meet of the outdoor season in Memphis,

Tenn., at the Austin Peay Spring Fling.

"Austin Peay was probably the best outdoor start to a season I've ever seen," Loeke said. "We set a lot of personal records."

Audrey Bailey set a personal record in the 400-meter hurdles with 1:05.30 in her first outdoor meet in two years. Anna O'Brien came in at 1:15.86, over 32 seconds under her previous best. Sophomore Hannah Henry finished second in the 100-meter hurdles with 14.97.

The four NCAA Division I schools in attendance should help the Bearcats prepare for the Missouri Relays, held March 30-31.

"We're going to take some other people who didn't go to Tennessee and we've got some other things happening," Loeke said. "I feel really good about where we are. I think things are really clicking going into the outdoor season."

Northwest will also feature four athletes in the Ashley Nally Heptathlon on April 1-2, part of the 10 person field expected for the event. Loeke is expecting runners from Missouri Southern, St. Cloud (Minn.) State, Baker (Kan.) and Wichita State.

"They're really excited about it," Loeke said. "The first heptathlon is always a little weird and they don't like that, but I think they're well prepared."



ABE QAOUD throws around the football during spring practice on Tuesday afternoon. Qaoud has been in rehab for two weeks after sustaining injuries in a fire at Carson Apartments, Jan. 27.

QAOUD: Sophomore receiver eager to play in 2007

continued from B1

"I haven't really thought about it, dog. I have not thought at all about not playing this year," Qaoud said. "If that would happen, I'm not going to be prepared."

Abe said what his younger brother, Robert, went through made his struggle seem like nothing. During Abe's freshman year, Robert had a heart transplant. It was during that time that Abe's faith strongly increased and Robert became a hero to Abe.

"He never cried, he never complained, he never did nothing," Abe said. "Just knowing that he went through that, it made the hospital stay a little easier."

Abe said he can't help but "blessed" and how much he appreciates assistant athletic trainer Kelly Quinlin, who he has lived with since leaving the hospital, March 9, team physician Pat Harr and head athletic trainer David "DC" Cull as they assist him in his recovery.

"That's what's going to help me get back on the football field is all the support," Abe said. "When something that devastating happens, you don't want to think that you could do it by yourself. If you know you have that support, it makes it that much easier."

Leap of Faith

Jan. 26 was like any other Friday for Abe. He had finished the first day of circuit training, which involves a series of grueling workouts. He completed a 2006 season in which he had 22

receptions for 318 yards and three touchdowns as Northwest made its second consecutive national championship game appearance.

"Every year, you get antsy for the first circuit," Abe said. "Because you don't know what to expect."

He was sick that day and had decided to take it easy, having had friends over the previous night. He was alone—his roommate, cornerback Brandon Clayton, in Kansas City for the weekend.

In the middle of the night, the smoke detector went off, but wasn't loud enough, according to Abe. He woke up, only to find that there was nothing wrong in his room. The football awards from his high school playing days at Hazelwood Central High in St. Louis still hung proudly on his wall.

It was a much different scene when he opened the door to his living room.

"Everything on fire. My TV was busted out and my (X-Box) 360 was melted, couches was on fire," Abe said. "Everything was just gone and I was like 'oh my God' so I didn't know what to do."

It didn't take long for the smoke to knock out Abe. As he lay face down on his bedroom floor, he woke up with the window as his only option for escape.

Frantically undoing the latch and busting out the screen, he got a breath of fresh air, seeing below only concrete and fire trucks. He remembers hearing a firefighter yell and point

up to the building, "there's one more" as the ladder was moving towards him. By then, his room was ablaze, his awards melting off the wall and the ladder nowhere close to him.

Abe knew he had no choice but to jump, or he trapped in the apartment fire—like the blaze's two victims, Derrick Schafer and Brandon Kaut.

"I'm thankful that he (God) made me smart enough to jump," Abe said. "The reason why I jumped is that I didn't want to die in an apartment fire. I wanted to at least die trying."

Hanging from his window, he said a prayer before he plummeted three stories to the ground.

"I can do all things through Christ who gives me strength"—Philippines 4:13.

Abe said he remembers something breaking his fall and making him pass out. When he woke up, Tjeerdsma was the first to be at his side.

"He was a mess. He was obviously a little bit shocked," Tjeerdsma said. "We talked constantly from the time I got there from the time they put him on the helicopter."

Abe said it meant a lot to him for Tjeerdsma, who didn't invite him back to fall camp in 2005, to notify his family and remain by his side, constantly telling him he'll play football again.

"I have a love for the guy. Him coming down so much made my stay there so much easier because he kept my spirits up," Abe said. "I don't know how ever to thank him except get my degree and play and I'm going to do that."

-COLUMN

Royals will be relevant again

It's that time of year again.

In nearly every season since 1985, "that time of year" signified false hope and is usually the high point of the Kansas City Royals' season.

With the possible exception of 2006, where I knew the Royals would be out of it by May, I found myself genuinely excited by opening day and dreamt

of the impossible. That misguided optimism is one of my flaws as I've watched my charity case team endure three straight 100-loss seasons with lineups that made Matt Stairs look like a power hitter and pitching staffs specifically designed give up homers and blow saves. It was hell.

But those days, much like the days where Kramer was known simply as Jerry's next-door neighbor, are gone.

But these Royals are no longer a glorified Triple-A team and are set to turn some heads as 2007 begins.

New General Manager Dayton Moore has assembled a roster of players who do not normally don the blue and white. By this I mean he has gotten young pitchers entering their primes at the top of the rotation, and a balanced lineup that will actually scare some people.

His big splash of the offseason was landing the new No. 1 starter in Gil Meche to an insane (for a small-market team) \$55 million contract. This news sent shockwaves throughout baseball and although Meche is not yet a No. 1 guy, the move excited me for three reasons.

KC outbid the big boys for his services, he's only 28 and is entering his prime, and his career numbers surpass superstars Chris Carpenter and Jason Schmidt's at this point in their careers. This move was either highly praised or mocked throughout the media. It even forced Big Jayz GM J.P. Ricciardi, after losing the bidding war, to blast Meche and the Royals in a whiny tirade condemning him for signing with an organization that can't win.

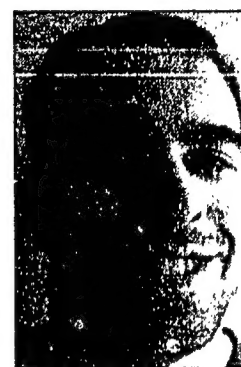
Sports talking across the country were talking about the Royals. The only time the national media ever acknowledge the boys in blue is at the trading deadline or during a massive losing streak. Kansas City is on the map again. Teams' hatred is a serious compliment as the Royals haven't been good enough to hate in years.

In addition to Meche, Moore completely overhauled the pitching staff from the Allard Baird era. Not a single starting pitcher from last opening day is on this year's roster. This is a good thing for a team that had a 5.65 ERA last year.

Another pitcher who is ready to contribute is prized prospect from the Baird era, Zack Greinke. I'm more excited about Greinke than Meche because he's only 23 and is having by far the best spring of his career. Once thought of as the savior, Greinke had an abysmal 2005

season. With Gordon, Toihen, Greinke and Meche, the Royals have a nucleus of talent that should remain together for a while.

As for this year, they will finish last again in a loaded AL Central. However, it won't be the same summer where I am laughed at for watching MetroSports in August when my team's 30 games out. They will narrow the gap but still do not have enough pitching to compete in a division loaded with it. This team is on the verge of being a small-market success story and 2007 is the transition to that future.



Sam Robinson
Chief Reporter

that forced a mental breakdown upon him and would miss the ever-fun '06 campaign. Greinke has the best stuff on the team and is a superstar in the making if he can avoid another Chappelle-esque meltdown.

Moore also grabbed proven closer Octavio Dotel to replace Ambiorix Burgos, a man that single-handedly ruined

many summer nights for myself and every other Royal diehard.

While the pitching staff got a much-needed upgrade, the lineup remains the strength of the team and is going to sneak up on the American League.

Excluding John Buck and bizarre new shortstop acquisition Tony Pena Jr. since 1999, the best Royals lineup since this is when Johnny Damon, Carlos Beltran and Jermaine Dye patrolled Kauffman's outfield.

There is reliable leadoff man David DeJesus who won't make anyone forget Beltran, but did hit over .300 last season if you take away his hamstring woes in April and May. Batting third is right fielder Mark Toihen, who exploded after his demotion to Omaha last May to lead the team with 18 homers. Mike Sweeney mans the same cleanup spot he mans every April before his inevitable trip to the disabled list. As an often injured athlete myself, I feel for the guy. But \$11 million a year is not justified when he has spends the majority of the season in the training room.

Batting fifth is the biggest prospect to come through town in nearly a decade. Alex Gordon will make his major league debut Monday and will have every fan standing when he does it. Gordon is bypassing the Triple-A level after obliterating Double-A pitching to earn Texas

League MVP honors. Gordon is a good enough prospect to move Royals MVP position to one he hasn't played since little league. Although I have tremendous confidence in him, I wish they wouldn't throw his and George Brett's name together so often because that name in Kansas City is like John Elway's in Denver: impossible to live up to. Over-hype often leads to failure and after all the failure this team has endured, I'm not sure I can handle a bust of this magnitude.

With Gordon, Toihen, Greinke and Meche, the Royals have a nucleus of talent that should remain together for a while.

As for this year, they will finish last again in a loaded AL Central. However, it won't be the same summer where I am laughed at for watching MetroSports in August when my team's 30 games out. They will narrow the gap but still do not have enough pitching to compete in a division loaded with it. This team is on the verge of being a small-market success story and 2007 is the transition to that future.

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COLLEGE Conundrum

By Lindsay Jacobs
Asst. Features Editor

College-bound juniors and seniors find themselves in crunch time getting ready for the next big step in their lives.

In addition to their usual course work, high school students balance extracurricular activities and part time jobs while preparing for college.

Ryan Tool, Maryville High School guidance counselor, said sometimes students get caught up in other activities and forget to focus on doing their best in class.

Tool believes students should begin thinking about college when they enter high school.

"Even as a freshman it's important for them to be taking college prep courses," Tool said.

At Maryville Middle School students begin to look at different careers and what education it takes to pursue that career.

The most challenging part of preparing for colleges is the deadlines, Tool said.

There are several things students can do in high school to make themselves more enticing to colleges such as taking part in extracurricular activities and being ranked high in their class.

In her article on Csoollegecenter.org, "The top things that colleges are looking for," high school guidance counselor Bonnie Sudduth recommends high school students take a variety of challenging classes, do their best on standardized tests, and participate in extracurricular activities and be active in their communities.

Sudduth also suggests students do well to earn good grades and keep them ranked high in their class. Students should put a lot of thought into their admissions essay, and mention awards they have accumulated throughout high school to make them unique.

MHS senior, Carli Mercer said she began searching for possible colleges, and made sure she did everything she needed to, such as taking the ACT.

She eventually decided to come to Northwest.

MHS senior Blake Jensen plans to attend either Missouri State University in Springfield or University of Missouri-Columbia, and recommends students make plenty of time for college planning.

"Start early, because once you get to your senior year it's too late for some things," Jensen said.

Miranda Oehler, second-year student in the Missouri Academy of Math, Science and Computing, said in the beginning her college search wasn't easy.

"I think starting was the hardest thing because I didn't know where to start," Oehler said. "I didn't know how to find colleges that had what I was looking for."

Oehler recommends high school students know what colleges are looking for and tailor their extracurricular activities around that.

"Have an idea in the back of your mind of what colleges are looking for," Oehler said. Fastweb.com, a site that helps students search for financial aid, as well as help students make important decisions about their education, recommends students take the ACT in their junior year.

The cost to take the test is \$29, which covers sending scores to up to four colleges or, according to Act.org. There are four parts to the test, English, math, science and reading.

Actstudent.org offers ACT a guide with a practice test and scoring key called "Preparing for the ACT," as well as practice test question, test tips and test descriptions at no charge.

—BYTHENUMBERS

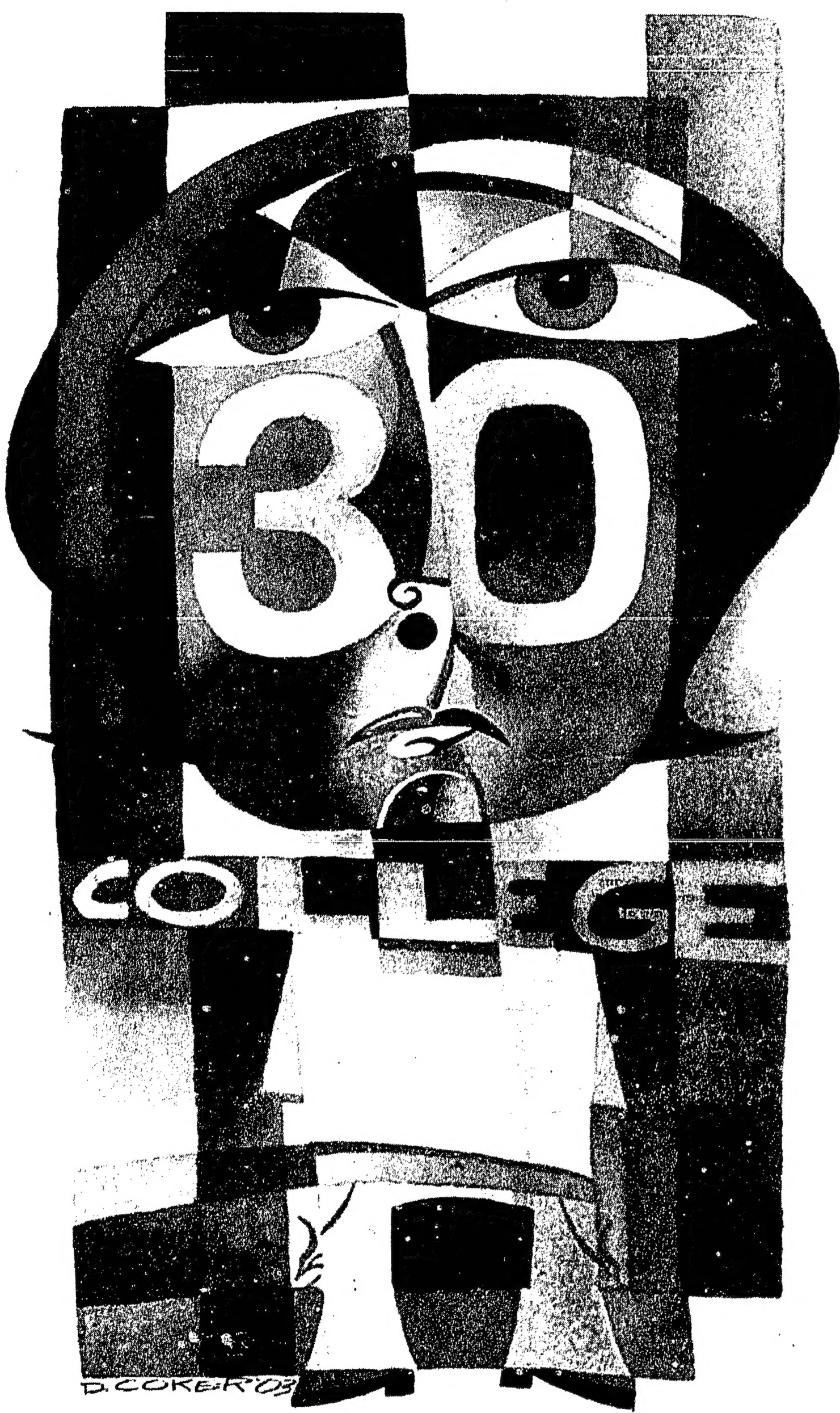
68 percent of high school graduates were enrolled in colleges or universities in Fall 2005.

21 national average ACT composite score in 2006

13 public four-year colleges and universities in Missouri

19 public two-year institutions in Missouri

College preparation can be daunting for many high school students, but planning can alleviate unnecessary stress



The SAT is another form of college entrance exam.

The SAT consists of three parts, writing, math and critical reading. The sections are scored on a scale from 200 to 800. The average score for each section is 500, according to Princetonreview.com.

Northwest is a moderately selective school, which means the institution accepts students who have a percentile rank of at least 100, or who have an ACT score of a 21 or higher. Other schools that are moderately selective include University of Central Missouri, Missouri Southern University and Southeast Missouri State University, according to the Missouri Department of Higher Education.

There are three other types of selection, according to the Missouri Department of Higher Education.

Highly selective schools require a percentile score of at least 140 points, or if a student receives a 27 or higher on the ACT they will be automatically accepted. Truman State University is a highly selective institution.

Selective schools admit students who have a percentile rank of 120 or higher. Students with a 24 or better on the ACT will be automatically accepted to these institutions. Examples of selective schools include Missouri State University and the University of Missouri in Columbia, Kansas City, Rolla and St. Louis.

Open enrollment schools admit Missouri residents with a high school diploma, or with an equivalent to that. However, students may not get in to certain programs that have special criteria for admittance. All public two-year institutions must have open enrollment, some examples of those institutions include Metropolitan Community College, Linn State Technical College and Missouri Western State University.

However, there are some exceptions to those standards, according to the Web site, 10 percent or less of those who apply who fall below the standards get accepted to the institution except for open enrollment.

Tammi Crow, associate director of admissions, said students who apply to Northwest and fall below the acceptance criteria are examined at an individual basis to make the determination.

Northwest applicants must also meet the core requirements which include: four years of English, three years of social studies, three years of math, two years of science and one year of visual or performing arts.

Grow urges high school students to looking at the core classes to make sure they have taken all of them. She also recommends students start taking the ACT as Juniors.

William Jewell, a private college in Liberty, Mo., accepts students who have strong academic credentials and who have taken college preparatory classes during high school, said Sherry McDowell, associate dean of admissions.

Her advice to students is to schedule a campus visit to figure out if William Jewell is the right college for them.

Last year the middle 50 percent of students who went to William Jewell had an average ACT score of 25 and a grade point average of 3.69, McDowell said.

She recommends students take challenging classes all four years of high school.

"Be sure to take college prep classes all the way through, don't lay off senior year," McDowell said.

—HOROSCOPES

Today's Birthday: (03-29-07)

Amazing things are possible this year for you, and the ones you love. Travel is recommended, along with publishing and filmmaking. Do it all for the experience and for what you'll learn. You'll make enough money to get by, but the big bucks come later.

To get the advantage, check the day's rating: 10 is the easiest day, 0 the most challenging.

Aries (March 21-April 19)

Today is a 7 — Your friends are in a hurry, but should you follow their lead? Listen to their suggestions but don't veer away from your assignment. Their plan will be too expensive.

Taurus (April 20-May 20)

Today is a 5 — You're not dead, you're only resting. Your friends understand one of them to go out for pizza, so you don't have to cook.

Gemini (May 21-June 21)

Today is a 7 — You're naturally a communicator, so it's hard for you to stay quiet. You'll gain a lot more information, however, if you do.

Cancer (June 22-July 22)

Today is a 10 — You could make a lot of money now. You have what you need. This is not a gamble. Your good business sense makes the difference.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22)

Today is a 6 — The problem is not your confidence now. That is increasing every day. The challenge is communications. You're in delicate negotiations.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

Today is a 6 — Silver looks like a good investment, along with real estate. Gold's not a bad idea either, come to think of it.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

Today is a 6 — The person you feel most comfortable with is like a brother or sister. Actually, that could be the reality, too. Or a cousin. Make the connection.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

Today is a 9 — Although there is some controversy, it does not pertain to you. Keep out of the way and keep doing your job. You're becoming indispensable.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

Today is a 7 — Take care, there's a test coming up. The talent scouts will be watching, soon. Don't be scared, but don't be a show-off, either. Be a charming, lovable fuzzi-ball.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

Today is an 8 — Pull enough out of petty cash to finance an excursion. Find out what's outside your safety zone, but be careful. It's a jungle out there.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

Today is a 7 — It's good to have a person around that's good at scheduling. Sometimes you get lost in thought and forget what day it is. If you get a wake-up call, just thank them for their service.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20)

Today is a 9 — You don't have time to go back and re-think your plan now. If something doesn't work, try something else immediately. Creativity will occur, trust that. You don't need to skip a beat.

—STROLLER

Your Man salutes naked man



large wedding party came in wearing gowns and tuxedos.

This seemed a little odd, but what the hell? Who cares where they have their reception?

I turned my head towards the door to see the second greatest white-trash moment in wedding history walk straight threw the door—a man in a tuxedo with a giant cowboy hat.

Yes, nothing says "I love you" like a guy who looks like he played opposite Heath Ledger in "Broke Back Mountain."

These people have inspired me. The days are over when I dress up in tuxedos or suits for weddings. I'm taking their ideas a step further.

The next wedding I attend, I will be wearing grape smugglers and a mesh tank top. I'm talking shorts so tight I'll need a second hair-do to wear.

I won't care what people think. I'm just going to let it all hang out—literally.

This tale cannot end with out

menting my third inspiration for my wedding fashion revolution. On Wednesday, I was driving home from lunch at the Mandarin when I saw a man who gave me courage...a man who gave me hope...a man who gave me a second tasting of Chinese when I threw up in my mouth.

On Walnut Street, I saw a man standing as naked as the day he was born on his front porch filling a bucket with water. The man was 75 years old if he was a day. He was wrinkly and saggy, and the image of him will haunt me until the day I die.

But it wasn't over. As if sensing our presence, the man began to move and jerk in what could only be described as dancing.

At 12:30 p.m. on Wednesday afternoon a 75-year-old man gave my friends a glimpse into the Wrinkly Ball Hall of Fame. It was like watching a naked Richard Simmons on PCP. I couldn't look, but I couldn't turn away.

What do you do in? Call the police? I couldn't do that. The man had so much courage.

Take a picture? I had no camera. So I rolled down my window and said the first thing that came to my mind.

"Nice balls, man, for an old man."

—MOVIE REVIEW

'Shooter' misses mark

By Missae Evans
Missouri Reporter

The movie "Shooter" begins as an intelligent government-conspiracy action tale that could very well have been ripped from the pages of a Tom Clancy novel. However, as the story progresses it spirals down into a violent, silly narrative that plays out more like an Elmer Fudd versus Bugs Bunny cartoon.

Mark Wahlberg plays sniper Bob Lee Swagger (arguably American cinema's most necktie hero name ever). Twenty years ago this role would have been filled by Sylvester Stallone, but now days Oscar nominated actors pull down these parts.

Disillusioned by the government, Swagger leaves the Marines and moves to a remote wilderness cabin to live out his days. That is until Danny Glover shows up as a shady upper-level government official with a new mission for Bob Lee.

Swagger works with the government to foil a presidential assassination attempt. Just one problem, the assassination occurs. Subsequently, Swagger is shot, thrown through a window, driven into a river and framed for the murder. Most of the rest of the film consists of the character running for his life and planning payback on those who framed him. This is the point where the movie loses its sense of reality.

"Shooter" was directed by Antoine Fuqua who has proven highly capable of making entertaining action that is thought-provoking with films like "Training Day" and "Tears of the Sun." This movie achieves the entertaining action part. But, thought-provoking? Not so much.

Fuqua makes his films look serious whether the story in them is or not. "Shooter" features a nice visual style and overall production value. All the actors play their characters as if they were actually somewhat representative of realistic humans, although they're not. Wahlberg is

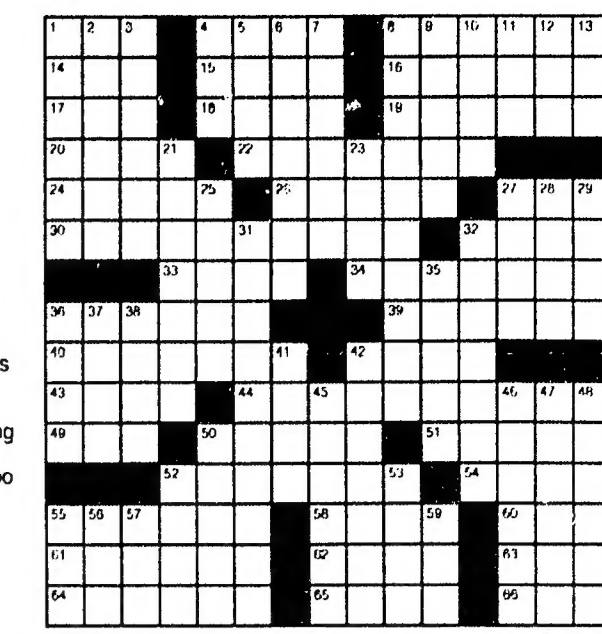
the type of action hero that our society requires. Unlike in the '80s, our society wants movie warriors that seem to spend as much time reading as they do lifting weights.

The bad guys in this movie are what make it kind of a joke. They could hang out with Saddam Hussein, they're so excessively evil. There's even a scene where they sit together in a secluded cabin, drinking and laughing maniacally as they relish their devilish exploits. The film's redeeming quality lies in the fact that it is entertaining. Most won't be bored by the plot. If "Shooter" had intended to be silly, exaggerated entertainment it could be considered a success. However, it seems like the film was meant to be somewhat intelligent...it isn't.

This movie succeeds in entertaining and amusing (mostly unintentionally), but overall, it falls flat and becomes forgettable. Wahlberg once again shows he is a real actor, but the director Fuqua gives us his least inspired effort to date. "Shooter" isn't firing blanks, but for the most part it misses the mark.

Crossword

ACROSS
1 Family ride
4 Camp beds
8 Respectful deference
14 Anger
15 Vintner
16 Humiliated
17 Xenon or neon
18 View as
19 Persons in charge
20 Aid a criminal
22 His books
24 Silks to anger
26 Qualifying races
27 Post-graduate pursuit
30 Bacteria causing food poisoning
32 Young kangaroo
33 Good points
34 Gasohol ingredient
36 Taken without permission
39 Common antiseptic
40 Roman comedy writer
42 Fragrant bloom
43 Time periods
44 Basicist
45 Take first place
50 Swings of the b-r
51 Leather band
52 Searched high and low
54 Oscar-winner
55 Milwaukee beer
56 Aphrodite's boy
60 "Faster..."
61 More or less
62 Eternally
63 Intimate
64 Stovepots
65 Guadalajara money
66 Attempt



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Solutions

6 Grows choppers
7 Playwright
8 Residence
9 Haulboys
10 Large unspecified number
11 Nincompoop
12 —which
13 Begley and Meese
14 Aphrodite's boy
15 Places of worship
16 Valley
17 Philosopher
18 Kierkegaard
19 Actress
20 Anderson
21 Long period
22 Noah of "E.R."
23 Invented phrases
24 Sausi
25 Green gem
26 Emmees
27 Fricassee
28 Scoundrel
29 Algerian city
41 Jacob's twin
42 Relevance
43 "Silkwood" star
44 Axilla
45 Actress Hedy
46 McFarland of "Our Gang"
50 Setting
52 Garden pest
53 Female rabbits
55 Besmirch
56 Winter Levin
57 Actor Charney
58 Sign of a hit

SU/DO/KU

Fill in the grid so that every row, every column, and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 thru 9; none of the numbers can repeat.

5	3					9	7	
	1						5	
				9				
			3	5				
7			9	3			6	
9							8	
1			5	2			4	
			6	7				
8				5			4	
3	9						1	5

Brainiac's Tips:

Study until you get tired and then go to sleep. Your brain must have time to process the information or you will forget it.

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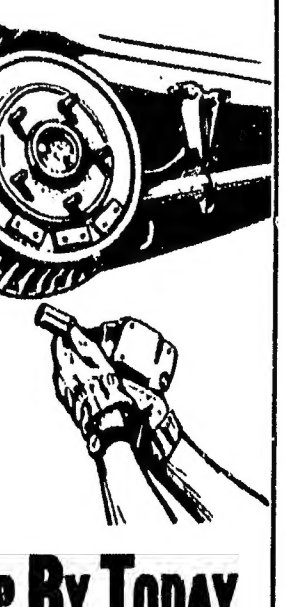
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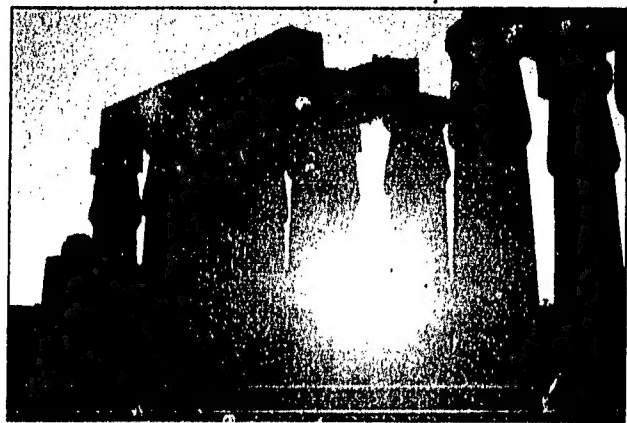
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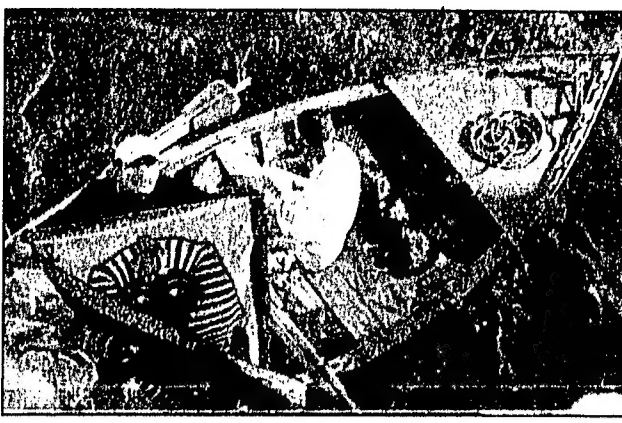
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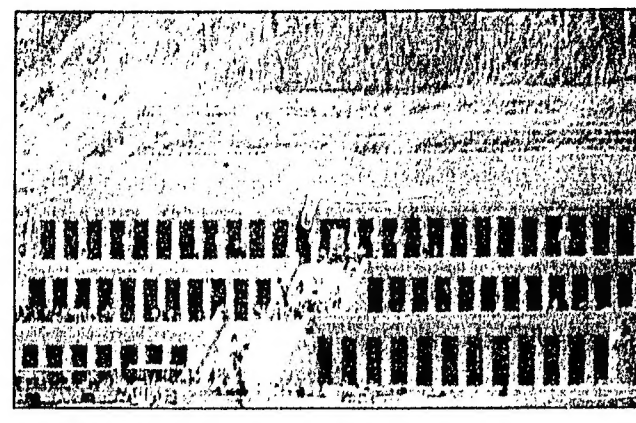
STOP BY TODAY



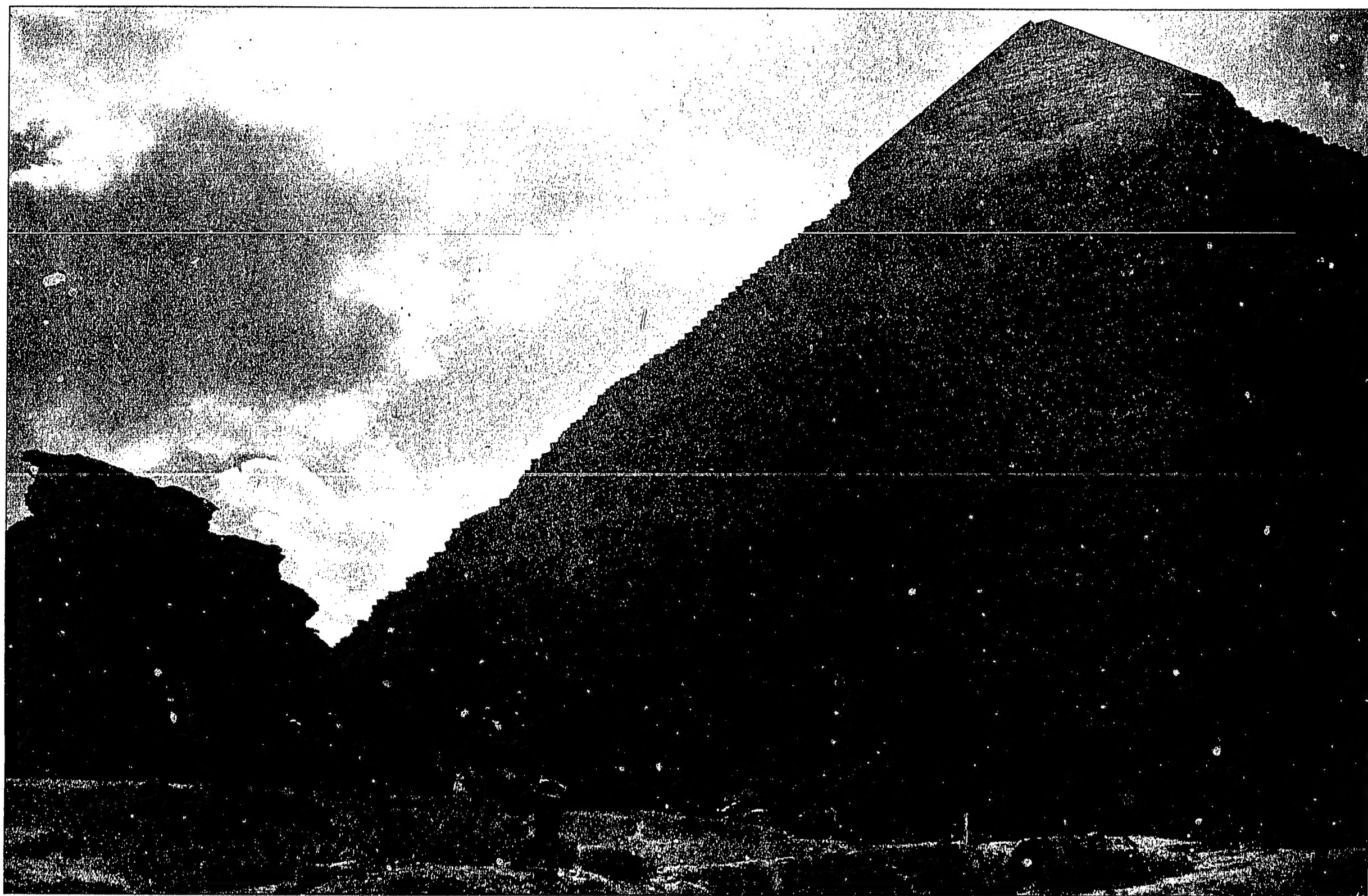
THE EGYPTIAN sun sets on the Temple of Luxor.



BOAT VENDORS try to sell blankets to tourists aboard cruise ships waiting to pass through the Esna Lock.



ALTHOUGH THIS is the Funeral Temple of Queen Hatshepsut, few images remain undefaced of her throughout Egypt.



ANCIENT ADVENTURE

Editor travels to Egypt on 10-day tour; follow her on the first half of her excursion

By Jessica Schmidt
Managing Editor

"You're going to Egypt. Wow. Don't they have terrorists over there?"

This may be the most repeated phrase I heard for a little under a year when I told friends and family I would be going on an educational tour of Egypt with 49 other Northwest students, teachers and alumni.

I wish I could say I didn't think twice about this opportunity of a lifetime, but I did. I worried and fretted not only about spending money, but flying and touring in the Middle East. I wondered how appreciated our presence would be as Americans.

By the end of our trip I suspect many, if not all, of the 49 who went on the trip had no reservations whatsoever about traveling in Egypt.

This journal sampling highlights just some of the sights and experiences I had in Egypt.

Wednesday, March 14
Travel is the name of the game

We've finally landed after traveling for over 24 hours straight. Cairo is seven hours ahead of Maryville and so it is technically 2:30 p.m., Thursday, March 15. I was really surprised to see no women working in the airport or surrounding areas. We meet our tour guide, Hesham Elsayad, and ride a bus to our hotel. We get a brief introduction to Cairo.

At dinner we get our first introduction to Egyptian food. It's a lot of bread, rice, gyros, stir-fry dishes and vegetables. Unfortunately, we can't eat much of the fruit unless it's something you can peel because the water here is totally different than what we are used to.

Friday March 16
Sightseeing Galore

After an early wake-up call we are off to see some

of Egypt's oldest monuments.

Tour: Imhotep Museum, Step Pyramid

Crawling into the Step pyramid wasn't exactly the "Mummy" movie experience. You bend over walking in a three-foot high crawl space and go about 60 feet down before you can stand up and see a blank room. It's an empty room with a hole on the other side with

another three-foot high tunnel that goes back up. I guess we can at least all say we've been in an ancient pyramid.

Many of the girls get their first marriage proposals here at the Step Pyramid. It's more of a joke and a ploy for attention by vendors than anything serious. One thing's for sure, I'm not for sure if my ego will ever recover from the lack of "Beautiful lady!" or "200 camels!" during my weekly shopping at Wal-Mart.

Visit: Rug and Carpet Store

After a quick bite to eat, we head to Giza to see the pyramids. Unfortunately on the way we hit a young girl with our bus. Our tour guide said early on that if you can drive in Cairo, you can drive anywhere. Cairo is a place where the lanes are merely suggestions and stop lights don't mean much. So crossing the street isn't an easy task and she didn't check well enough to see our bus coming. As a general rule, tour buses in Egypt must have police

escorts. So our escorts stop to take care of her. Luckily, later we found out she was OK.

After the traffic scare, we make our way to Giza where we see Khufu's great pyramid and Khafre's pyramid. About 9,000 people a day visit the pyramids and the Sphinx.

I was amazed at how close the Giza pyramids are to Cairo. I always imagined them far off in the distant desert but they sit next to Cairo, so close in fact we had some great panoramic views of Cairo from the pyramids.

Hesham told us new buildings planning to build near the Giza plateau have regulations on how high they can build, so they will not ruin the skyline of the

pyramids.

One of the most amazing things about Egypt is how much more excavation they have left to do. Up close to both the pyramids and the Sphinx, you can see how they literally dug the monuments out of the sand.

Saturday, March 17

Tut, Tombs and Temples

After another early wake-up call we fly to Luxor and head to the Valley of the Kings. Here 63 ancient tombs lie, and Hesham, an Egyptologist, says he expects tomb No. 64 to be excavated this upcoming fall. We visit four tombs including King Tut's. The most striking thing here is how small Tut's is compared to the other three. To think Howard Carter found enough artifacts in 1922 in Tut's tomb that it took them 10 years to catalog them all; it's striking to think what archeologists could have found in the other tombs much larger in size, had grave robbers not gotten there first. Some estimate that much of our gold today at some point, passed through ancient Egypt.

Tour: Queen Hatshepsut's Funeral Temple, Colossi of Memnon
Visit: Alabaster shop

Queen Hatshepsut's is one of the few female rulers of ancient Egypt. I can't get over how much of the color is intact at all of these places. Hesham explained nearly all of the Egypt's monuments are dug out of the sand and that it is a natural preserver of the original carvings and paint.

At sunset we tour the Temple of Luxor, which is absolutely amazing at sundown.

Sunday March 18

Temples and "Textile Pirates"

We woke up early to tour the Temple of Karnak. This connects to the Temple of Luxor through a nearly two-mile long Avenue of Sphinxes. Most of these

sphinxes are still unexcavated, some even under houses and stores. This highlights another remarkable thing about Egypt, there is so much that is still underground, under piles of sand that they have yet to find. Some Egyptologists estimate they have only uncovered 25 percent of Egypt's ancient artifacts and monuments.

The Temple of Karnak is just as impressive as Luxor.

We board our ship and head for the Esna lock, where we are warned about these "baseball" vendors. These vendors row small boats next to the cruise ships and throw merchandise onto the sun decks of ships waiting to go through the lock. Their prices aren't fixed, so we bartered with them and threw our money down wrapped in plastic bags or other merchandise. I was completely amazed by this system.

Our group leader, Richard Frucht, dubbed them "pirates with textiles" and there is no other way to describe them. Once you lean over the deck you are literally pelted with shirts, towels, blankets, etc. They play games, alleging they've thrown something over that they

haven't, but you have all the power. You can throw their stuff back down and it doesn't always hit the boat, often landing in the Nile.

After an hour or two of dealing with the vendors we end our night getting a lecture on Muslim culture and Middle Eastern politics, followed by dinner and dance...



ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR Sue Frucht looks at the walls of the Temple of Luxor.

